Criteria for export of rice

302. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any criterion has been laid down to determine the eligibility for subsidy for export of rice;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how it is ensured that only exports of genuine non-Basmati rice to the Middle East is put in a claim?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a)to(c)A new foodgrain export policy is being formulated. It is at an advanced stage of consideration in the Government of India. The details and incentives under the scheme are yet to be finalised.

Trade relation with Libya

303. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Libya has offered multi-sectoral scope for the Indian firms;

(b) if so, the sectors which have been thrown open; and

- (c) the areas where the Indian firms have already made a foray and the other areas where they now propose to enter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (c) Indian firms have already made a foray in Libya in infrastructure, power, ail and telecommunications. New sector identified for cooperation with Libya include automobiles, software, It education, healthcare and pharmaceuticals. Libya has also lifted an informal ban on commodity imports from India, which was in force for the last few years.

Gold Policy

304. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to set up a panel to study the Gold Policy;